

*a<sup>3</sup>*  
-- Although modifications and changes may be suggested by those of ordinary skill in the art, it is the intention of the inventors to embody within the patent warranted hereon all changes and modifications as reasonably and properly come within the scope of their contribution to the art.--

5    **IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1-3 and substitute the following claims 4-6

therefor:

*21.126*    *500 774*    A method for three-dimensional identification of an object having an object surface, said method comprising the steps of:  
10                 illuminating a digital micro mirror arrangement via a light source;  
                      successively projecting a number of encoded illumination patterns  
                      in a beam path through a variable color filter onto said object  
                      surface by driving said digital micro mirror arrangement to  
                      sequentially illuminate said object surface with at least three  
                      colors for identification of at least three depth planes of said  
                      object in a single image;  
15                 registering said image of said object with a color camera from a  
                      direction different from said beam path; and  
                      calculating a high precision topography of said object surface from  
                      said registration in a control and evaluation unit.  
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*a<sup>4</sup>*  
21                 The method according to claim 1, wherein said encoded  
                      illumination patterns comprise a stripe pattern having successively varied  
                      periodicity.  
25                 The method according to claim 1, wherein said method is  
                      used for face identification.

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

On page 8, in line 1, cancel "Abstract" substitute the following